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Land Revenue Administration

Representations against the enhancement of water-rates in Tiruturaipundi and Mannargudi.

* 338 *Q.*—Mr. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received any representations from the mirasidars of Tiruturaipundi and Mannargudi taluks praying that the enhancement of water-rates owing to the reclassification of irrigation sources be postponed on account of the defective drainage system in the said taluks; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table all the representations received so far and the action taken by the Government?

A.—(*a*) The Government have received several representations on the subject.

(*b*) The Government have exempted irrigation sources from reclassification wherever it was reported that the lands suffered from drainage difficulties. No useful purpose will be served by placing the representations on the table of the House.

Decision of the Government to restrict the operation of the Madras Agriculturists' Loans (Amendment) Act, 1935, to certain districts.

* 339 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to restrict the operation of the Madras Agricultural Loans (Amendment) Act, 1935, to certain districts, in the Presidency of Madras;

(*b*) if so, what the districts selected by the Local Government are for that purpose;

(*c*) what the special reasons are for selecting those districts; and

(*d*) which of the districts in the Presidency are heavily indebted?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government do not propose to restrict the operation of the Agriculturists' Loans (Madras Amendment) Act, 1935, to any particular district. It is proposed as an experimental measure to start the work in two divisions in the Presidency, viz., the Chingleput division of the Chingleput district, and the Rajahmundry division of the East Godavari district. These areas are considered the most suitable for the experimental working of the scheme.

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(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Chapter IV of the report of the Special Officer on Agricultural Indebtedness, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press in G.O. No. 2942, Law (General), dated 12th September 1935. The Government are not in a position to state the exact extent of indebtedness in each district.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I ask why the Guntur district was not selected for conducting the experiment, especially as Mr. Strathie, who is the Collector now, was Registrar of Co-operative Societies for a very long time? "

The Hon Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" I think, Sir, that the hon. Member should just have a little patience. The case of Guntur also will be considered shortly."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, on what basis the suitability of these areas selected was fixed? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" The suitability was fixed on the report from Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Member, Board of Revenue, who visited these places and several other places and after his visit he considered that for experimental purposes these two divisions were the most suitable."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" How long will the experiment continue and when will the provisions of the Act be applied to other districts? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" I think I informed the House yesterday that I am unable to give an exact answer to that question. All I can say is the Government's intention is to extend the benefit of this amending Act to the whole of the Presidency as soon as they possibly can."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" With regard to answer (*b*), may I know whether the Government would not get information from the Special Officer with regard to the indebtedness of the Guntur district? I gather from the report that Guntur is heavily indebted."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" We have no information here. The information we have is from what the Special Officer has reported. He has given us only the total indebtedness in the Presidency. I suggest to the hon. Member that he should write to Mr. Sathianathan and ask him whether he has got any figures for the Guntur district."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Cannot the Government find out from any other source whether Guntur is heavily indebted or not? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" I do not think so."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, why the report of the Special Officer has not been supplied to the Members of this House as yet, though it has been placed at the disposal of the Press on 12th September 1935? "

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The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"There is no objection, Sir, to supply the hon. Member with a copy. My Hon. Colleague says that it has been supplied to Members."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"We have not received copies."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I shall see that every Member gets a copy."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"In answer to clause (*d*), it is stated, Sir, that the Government are not in a position to state the exact extent of indebtedness in each district. May I know, Sir, whether the Government are not preparing such figures?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"No, Sir."

Alleged attempt to close the foot and cart-tracks leading up the Kadri Hill, South Kanara.

* 340 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there are some mamul foot and cart-tracks leading from the public road on the Kadri Hill, northwards to the warg lands in Kadri village;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of South Kanara is attempting to close the said public mamul ways; if so, for what purpose and under what right; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the information has since been received?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"No, Sir."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"Will the Hon. Member be pleased to place the information on the table of the House, when received?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I shall consider it after I have seen it."

Proposal to build a church and provide a cemetery on the Kadri Hill.

* 341 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to build a church on the Kadri Hill above the Kadri temple and Kadri Mutt, Mangalore, near the cement concrete cross now put up by the Bishop of Mangalore and whether the Bishop or anybody else has made an application for grant of land for the same;